

THE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE.

It has long been the custom for the Republican State Convention to meet in the city of Chicago, and the purpose of fixing the time and place of holding the state convention. At these meetings reports are given in various localities, and as the persons present are usually men accustomed to watching the drift of popular sentiment they afford a very fair test whereby to judge of the temper and wishes of the party at large. The meeting held in Chicago yesterday was the largest and most enthusiastic one known in the history of the party in this state. It was not made up of any particular class of men, but included representatives of every shade of sentiment in the party. The old school men who have never missed a convention or a campaign since 1854, were sandwiched with the young and ardent Republicans who will cast their first Presidential vote next fall, and it was gratifying to observe the degree of harmony and understanding which pervaded the entire mass.

The committee had arranged to have the meeting opened with a short speech by Gov. Hamilton, who was warmly received, and made a very good speech. Ex Gov. Oglesby was next called for, and as he happened forward to take the platform he was greeted with a perfect storm of applause, loud and long continued. His reception was a complete ovation, and showed immediately the sentiment of those present. His speech was in his happiest vein, and his old friends who have heard him so often and under such varying circumstances, agree that he never acquitted himself with more credit. His remarks called forth frequent and hearty demonstrations of applause, and when he sat down it was evident that the next governor of Illinois was already nominated, at least so far as that meeting could indicate its preference. Reports were then heard from the various districts, and all the speakers brought tidings of the greatest encouragement. All reported harmony in the ranks of the party in their respective localities, and all predicted an old-fashioned majority. So far as any of the speakers expressed a preference for candidates, they were in favor of Logan for President and Oglesby for Governor. Indeed, as a good many people expressed it, "the conference was a Logan and Oglesby mass meeting."

The committee, after hearing twenty or thirty speeches, held the formal meeting to determine the time and place for holding the state convention, and after a somewhat spirited contest Peoria was selected as the place and the 15th of April the date. The call will be issued in a few days.

Among the present there seemed to be a good deal of feeling in favor of holding the state convention prior to the meeting of the late convention, for the selection of delegates to the National convention. That is, to remove the question of choosing the delegates as far as possible from the inducements which surround a state convention. Of course this is a matter to be settled by each district in its own way.

It is the Oglesby team that is just now outshooting all the other gubernatorial teams.

SPRINGFIELD was pretty well represented at Chicago yesterday, but Peoria seemed to put in the best work.

SENATOR ROBERTS was one of the most active and alert workers in Chicago yesterday, and enjoyed the situation exceedingly, as clear after cheer told of the popularity of the man for whom he had labored so faithfully.

BOSS HESTER made a speech at the Republican conference yesterday, in which he pronounced himself in favor of the doctrine of protection and the rights of the American boy, and gave Mr. Medill the benefit of some of his sarcasm on the tariff question.

This lawlessness prevailing in the cattle-grazing regions of Texas is having its effect. The agent of a wealthy company of English capitalists, who has been visiting that State with a view of investing millions of dollars in lands and cattle, has left in disgust. He declares that property is more secure in Ireland than in Texas, and can see no sign of any improvement in the condition of affairs. And this, too, after the State Legislature, in special session, has been trying to suppress existing troubles by statutory enactment.

ROBERTSON stock worth \$4.00 and \$4.50 for \$3.00 and \$3.50 at J. W. Baker's.

We are constantly receiving the latest styles in Silk and Soft Ties, from the French Coter.

BY TELEGRAPH.

DILUVIAN DAYS.

The Beautiful Valley of the Ohio One Vast Scene of Desolation.

Sufferings That Cannot be Told, and Losses Beyond Estimation.

Touch a Pitying Chord in the Great Heart of the Nation.

And the People Respond With One Accord—Tribute, Official, Fraternal and Individual.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 13.—The situation here most gloomy than ever. The river rose almost constantly from half an inch to an inch an hour, and was growing from two to three feet above the highest stage last year. This is a fact of great significance, and one of no small importance. The water is now at a level which is certainly not a little above the normal level, and it is significant because of the vast increased territory flooded and because of the greatly increased danger to the city. The water is now at a level which is certainly not a little above the normal level, and it is significant because of the vast increased territory flooded and because of the greatly increased danger to the city.

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THE DIVORCE MILL.

Worked For Toll in the City of Churches.

How Marriages Were Annulled Without Publicity—The District Attorney's Investigation—Several Arrests.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—An exceedingly interesting case was brought to light in the divorce mill, and when an investigation of the matter is fully completed it is likely that much light will be thrown upon the very simple system of obtaining divorces which has been noticeable for a few years past. A letter was received by Rodney Thurney, clerk of Kings county, recently, which reads as follows:

"Dear Sir—Will you kindly inform me if the enclosed is a correct copy of the record of the divorce suit in Kings county, and if the signature of Rodney Thurney is legal. Your immediate answer will greatly oblige. Yours truly, [Signed] 'Miss T. R. Huxford.'"

This lady is the wife of Francis H. Huxford. She received from her lawyers a copy of an absolute divorce granted by the court in Kings county, from her husband on satisfactory ground. The name of John G. Law was on the papers in the case as referee. The document bore the date of the County of Kings. When Mr. Thurney read the record he was in an instant struck by the fact that the name of John G. Law was on the papers in the case as referee. The document bore the date of the County of Kings. When Mr. Thurney read the record he was in an instant struck by the fact that the name of John G. Law was on the papers in the case as referee.

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WITH A RAZOR.

Then, Kelly Takes Himself to Another World.

St. Louis, Feb. 13.—Thomas Kelly, residing with his wife and family at No. 1533 North Eleventh street, committed suicide in the presence of his wife, whose efforts to prevent the rash deed proved futile. The suicide has been connected with the St. Louis Bridge company for a number of years in capacities which led to his becoming well known to the traveling public, who will hear of his tragic end with regret. The story of his terrible death can best be told in the words of his wife as she narrated it to a reporter. She said:

"My husband has been for two years troubled with indigestion, which has caused him much worry. Recently he became affected with hernia, and as he was very proud of his physical strength, these things combined had a very depressing effect upon him. He was under the care of Dr. Clark of St. Louis, who gave him great relief and assured him he would pull through all right, but my husband seemed to think otherwise and often, I told me that he intended to take his life. I have watched him closely on this account. Some days before going to bed he would kiss me, and the two girls and the boys, and then I would stay up all night watching him. Last night, however, I had no sleep. He had some extraordinary ideas, and talked in a queer spirit. During the evening he was quite joyful and this change in his demeanor made us all happy. At 4 o'clock this morning I woke up and found Thomas standing in the room fully dressed. I asked him what he was doing, and he said he had decided to go to bed. He was a very good man in that way, but I felt that there was some other reason for his rising and dressing at that early hour. I asked him to come back to bed, and he finally consented and undressed himself. It was all ready to come back to bed when I saw him go to his chamber and take something out of one of the pockets. I jumped up and saw that he was holding a razor. 'Thomas?' In a moment I saw

THE FLASH OF A BLADE
as his hand was lifted towards his neck. He moved quickly over to the bureau and stood opposite the mirror. I flung my arms around his neck and clutched at his wrist. He was stronger than I, however, and I saw him draw the blade of his razor across his throat. I grabbed for the weapon, but he had already cut his throat, and my right hand was severed at the wrist. He retained the razor and drew it again across his throat. I tried again to get the razor from him. His hold grew weaker, and as his hand relaxed I grabbed the blade and held it up to the light. The blood pouring from his throat. I rushed to the window and gave the alarm. The neighbors opened their windows and looked out, but refused to come to my assistance. It was fully half an hour before a doctor was brought, and by that time my husband was breathing his last."

THE GOSPEL OF THE FLOOD.

Behold We Bring You Glad Tidings of Great Joy Which Shall be to All Flood Sufferers.

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 13.—The Governor yesterday issued a stirring proclamation, urging the people to organize relief societies for the relief of the suffering flood victims along the Ohio border. WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Secretary Blaine, who will abandon his contemplated trip to Chicago, to give personal supervision to the distribution of the \$300,000 appropriated by Congress for the relief of the flood sufferers of the Ohio valley. Orders were issued yesterday to Gen. Ames B. Keith, assistant secretary general, and to Mr. St. Louis, to proceed at once to Cincinnati, where he will have general charge of the distribution of supplies at Cincinnati. Orders were also issued for the purchase of supplies and for the shipment of relief supplies to the sufferers by rail.

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ASK FOR

HOPS & MALT BITTERS
THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER
Liver and Kidney Remedy
Compounded from the most famous
Gentiana, Hops, Malt, Pilsener Beer,
Cascara, Sassafras, Cassia,
Sage, and other pure and healthful
ingredients.
THEY CURE DYSPEPSIA & INDIGESTION
Act upon the Liver and Kidneys,
REGULATE THE BOWELS,
They cure Rheumatism, and all Urinary
troubles. They invigorate,
purify, strengthen and quiet
the Nervous System.
As a Tonic they have no equal.
Take none but Hops and Malt Bitters.
—FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS—
Hops and Malt Bitters Co.,
DETROIT, MICH.
Jan. 20-d&wly

WANTED, LOST, FOUND, &c.

[Notice in this column, of five lines or less, will be inserted one week for 25 cents, payable in advance.]

FOR RENT—Two good girls at the Thomas House, No. 42 East Main street. Apply to Charles Powers, Argonne.

WANTED—Two good girls at the Thomas House, No. 42 East Main street. Apply to Charles Powers, Argonne.

LOST—A pair of black leather mittens, both having collars, and one has a leather ball around the wrist, which is attached to the other. The finder will be liberally rewarded by returning them to Mrs. S. S. Sargent.

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RECEIVED TO-DAY:

A LARGE STOCK OF
Prints, Gingham & Muslins,
400 pieces New Styles Embroideries from 5c. to \$4.75.
100 pieces handsome trimmings for muslin, at 3 to 15c.
Also Cash's Colored Trimmings.
200 lbs. Seine Cord, col'd and white.
New Styles Linen and Lace Collars
New Ruchings, and the most elegant line of CORSETS we have ever shown.

F. L. HAYS & CO.

Feb. 4—d&wly

Chance Extraordinary

— DURING THE —
Entire Month of February

Prices such as have never been made for the
Finest, Choicest and Most Attractive Stock of

DIAMONDS,

Gold Watches, Stylish Jewelry

STERLING SILVERWARE,

Triple and Quadruple Plate Silverware,

Never Displayed in Decatur. Every article in
OUR LARGE STOCK MARKED DOWN

We offer exceptional values in

GOLD WATCHES AND SILVERWARE.

Take advantage of this opportunity and make an early selection. We cordially invite an inspection of everybody to our immense and attractive stock of everything to be found in a reliable jewelry house.

If you can't call during the day, come in the evening. We will cheerfully show you goods and astonish you with low prices.

W. R. ABBOTT & CO.

No. 3, 1883—d&wly

A Full Line of Fine and Medium

FURNITURE, MATTRESSES!

And Almost Everything for Housekeeping, including

STOVES

AND

QUEENSWARE

LITTLE'S,

Housekeepers' Headquarters, Court House Block,
Jan. 21, 1884—d&wly

SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of one execution to me directed and delivered by the clerk of the circuit court of Mecon county, Illinois, in favor of Frank P. Priest and against John P. Christie and John P. Christie, I have levied upon the following described property, to-wit: The undivided one-fourth (1/4) interest in the south half (1/2) of lot two (2) in block three (3) of town of Mecon, in the county of Mecon and state of Illinois. Taken as property of the said John P. Christie and John P. Christie, which I will offer at public sale at the west door of the Mecon county court house, in Mecon county, Illinois, on the first day of March, A. D. 1884, at the hour of twelve (12) o'clock in the forenoon, for cash in hand to satisfy

S. G. HATCH & BRO.,
143 East Main St., Powers' Block.
Feb. 5--dkwll

ROCHESTER shoes worth \$4.00 and \$4.50
for \$3.00 and \$3.50 at J. W. Baker's.

some notes and accounts of mine have
been lost. P. ULLRICH,
Feb. 12-d6

Feb. 7-46t w1
\$2.50 ~~shown~~ for \$2.70 at J. W. Baker's.

WHEAT—\$1.00; March; \$1.12; April;
1.14½ May.
CORN—60½ Mar; 64½ Apr; 65½ May.
OATS—41½ Mar; 42½ Apr; May 43.

Feb. 4, 1984—d2.wtf.

FLEURY, the French Cutter.
Corner of Old Square, Decatur, Ill.

Decatur, Illinois, Jan. 9, 1894.
B. O. MCKEYNOlds, Assignee.
Jan. 10-40w